



# OneCare Kansas

a program of KanCare, Kansas Medicaid

# OneCare Kansas Newsletter

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Helping people live healthier lives by integrating and coordinating services and supports to treat the “whole-person” across the lifespan.

## Learning Collaborative Update

August continued to be a month full of learning and networking for OneCare Kansas partners! On August 18, WSU/CEI hosted the OneCare Kansas Learning Collaborative for directors and managers in the OCK network of providers.

Lauren Lauridsen from the KDHE Bureau of Health Promotion highlighted programs and opportunities that can help OCK Partners provide quality health promotion and education activities. The group also engaged in a discussion around current and future strategies for providing this important service during the current public health crisis.

Thanks to everyone who shared their time and expertise! Things will look a bit different for the next event which is scheduled for September 15 at 3:00 p.m. Stay tuned!

## Implementation Calls Move to Monthly

As a reminder, the Implementation Calls have been moved to monthly. If you have questions or topics that you would like covered on a call please remember to reach out to the OCK team through the OCK email box at: [OneCareKansas@ks.gov](mailto:OneCareKansas@ks.gov)





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## Learning Opportunities for OCK Partners

On August 20, WSU/CEI hosted the monthly virtual Community of Practice for Care Coordinators and Social Workers within the OCK partner network. Nearly 45 providers from across the state shared strategies and challenges related to developing quality Health Action Plan goals, accurately determining and documenting progress, and engaging external partners. Our next session of the OCK Community of Practice will be on September 17 at 3:00 p.m.

On August 28, nearly 40 staff from OCK partners participated in the final session of the OCK Health Action Plan Webinar Series. Lisa Ross from K-State Research and Extension presented Health Literacy: Helping People Understand and shared a number of great resources to help partner organizations improve their practices to support improved health outcomes for OneCare Kansas members.

We look forward to continuing our learning together in September!

## Manual Updates

This month the state team made a few updates to improve the OCK Program Manual. Please look for the following:

- Section 2.5 & 3.1 - Updated language regarding the Provider Application process
- Section 12.3 - Added language regarding the 6 month audits
- Appendix A - Added a new Behavioral Health contact
- Appendix B - Updated the Provider Application and added the new Opt-Out Form

Remember to check back after the 15th of each month to ensure that you are working off of the most up-to-date Program Manual.



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# Desktop OCK Audit

As part of our goal to ensure a quality program, the MCOs will be doing audits of OneCare Kansas Partners. For now, we wanted to give you some guidance regarding the timing of these audits. Audits of contracted OneCare Kansas partners will take place during the sixth month following the effective date of the last contracting MCO. (Example: OCKP A contracts with all three MCOs. These MCOs execute contracts with OCKP A dated December 1st, December 3rd and January 1st. In this scenario, the audit will occur six months after January 1st.) Please be on the lookout for more information in the future.

## Relocation of OCK Members

In order to ensure continuity of care for OCK members who relocate frequently, we have worked with our MCO partners to implement the following process:

For foster care members who relocate, the MCOs will maintain existing OneCare Kansas member assignments until members have demonstrated stability in placement for at least six months. After six months of stable placement, youth in foster care will be reassigned to a local OneCare Kansas provider. All members will retain the right of choice--meaning, they may, after reassignment, ask for a different local OneCare Kansas provider through their foster care contractor.

Minimizing OneCare Kansas member reassignments while encouraging telephonic delivery of services will ensure stability and flexibility, enhancing our OneCare Kansas partners' ability to deliver OneCare Kansas services to some of our most vulnerable members. If a OneCare Kansas partner is unable and/or unwilling to deliver these services as described above, then the MCO will reassign the impacted member to another OneCare Kansas provider who will meet the service delivery requirements.

## Opt-Out form

We heard from our partners that calling the MCOs was not always the easiest thing to do to opt a member out of the OCK program. In response to this, we have worked with our MCO partners to create a form for members to opt-out of the OCK program. The processing of this form will be the same as our other forms. It must be submitted by the 9th of the month in order for the change to take effect on the first of the following month. You can find this form in the manual in Appendix B or on our website at, <https://www.kancare.ks.gov/providers/onecare-ks-providers/providers-interested-onecare-kansas/informational-materials-for-providers/ock-forms>.



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If you have questions, or would like more information about OneCare Kansas, please contact us.

Our page on the KanCare website also contains information about our work to develop the project and documents are being updated regularly.

If you would like to receive this newsletter please send us an email.

**Email:**

[OneCareKansas@ks.gov](mailto:OneCareKansas@ks.gov)

**Website:**

[www.kancare.ks.gov](http://www.kancare.ks.gov)



## Special Note

### Influenza Vaccinations During COVID-19

With flu season upon us, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released guidance on influenza vaccination during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, reducing the overall burden of respiratory illnesses is important to protect vulnerable populations at risk for severe illness, the healthcare system, and other critical infrastructure. Thus, healthcare providers should use every opportunity during the influenza vaccination season to administer influenza vaccines to all eligible persons, including:

- **Essential workers:** Healthcare personnel, including nursing home, long-term care facility, and pharmacy staff, and other critical infrastructure workforce.
- **Those at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19:** Including adults age 65 years and older, residents in a nursing home or long-term care facility, persons of all ages with certain underlying medical conditions. Severe illness from COVID-19 has been observed to disproportionately affect members of certain racial/ethnic minority groups.
- **Persons at high risk for influenza complications:** Including infants and young children, children with neurologic conditions, pregnant women, adults age 65 years and older, and other persons with certain underlying medical conditions.

For more information about influenza vaccinations, please visit the CDC website. If you need to find guidance on vaccinating people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pandemic-guidance/index.html>.

### Congratulations to Julie Yancey

We would like to congratulate Julie Yancey on her well-earned retirement from KDHE. Julie did great work for the Health Homes program and has been instrumental to the success of OCK as well. We are sad to see her go but wish her well in her retirement!